

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

VEERASAMY et al.

Atty. Ref.: 3691-356

Serial No. To be Assigned

Group: 1762

Filed: December 6, 2001

Examiner: Chen, B.

For: METHOD OF ION BEAM MILLING A GLASS SUBSTRATE PRIOR TO
DEPOSITING A COATING SYSTEM THEREON, AND CORRESPONDING
SYSTEM FOR CARRYING OUT THE SAME

* * * * *

December 6, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-38.

Please add the following new claims:

-- 39. (New) A method of making a coated article, the method comprising:

providing a glass substrate;

ion beam milling substantially an entire surface of the glass substrate so as to reduce the thickness of the substrate by at least about 2 Å, wherein during the ion beam milling an ion beam is directed toward the glass substrate so as to hit the substrate at an angle of from about 40-60 degrees in order to mill the substrate; and

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depositing a coating on the substrate over at least a portion of the ion beam milled surface thereof.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said ion beam milling is performed so as to reduce the thickness of substantially the entire substrate by from about 4-20 Å.

41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the ion beam milling is performed using an ion energy of from about 1500-2000 eV.

REMARKS

This is a continuation of Serial No. 09/703,709. The original claims have been canceled, and new claims 39-41 have been added. It is respectfully requested that the application be amended as set forth above prior to initial examination thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

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